GIRIGOVARDHANA LILA OF SREE KRISHNA

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INTRODUCTION

The sources of the above mentioned article are-

(i) Govardhana arrives in Vrindavan-lecture given by my beloved Guru deva H.H.Bhakti-Charu Swami Maharaj.

(ii) Srimad Bhagavatam, canto 10.

(iii) Gopal Champu – Srila Jiva Goswami

(iv) Garga-Samhita

(v) Nector of Devotion -Srila Rupa Goswami.

HOW AND WHY GIRI-GOVARDHANA ARRIVED IN BHAUMA VRINDAVANA?

Giri-Govardhana remains in Gokula, Vrindavan always. At the last part of the Dwarpa Yuga, Sree Krishna sent Govardhana as a mountain which was situated below the Himalaya mountain . Actually the Lord sent him to play His Bhauma Vrindavana Lila. A muni/risi named Pulastha was a devotee of Shiva. Hence, he lived in the main place of Shiva i.e, Baranasi (Kashidhama).He meditated and worshipped Lord Shiva.

Once upon a time Pulastha wanted to travel throughout the different parts of India.He started from Kashi and at one time reached Drone mountain.Drone received him with great honour in his house .He was serving the Muni in different ways. He also engaged his son Govardhana for servicing the Pulastha, Govardhana was serving him very minutely. In this way 7-8 days were passed.Muni became very much pleased from the services rendered by Govardhana.He thought himself that if he could get Govardhana with him and went to Kashidhama. Thinking so, at the time of departure he requested Drone to give him , his son for his services.Drone became very sad but did not expressed it due to possible curse of Pulastha. He said that he has no objection if his son agrees to go with him . Then Pulastha asked Govardhana about his opinion. Govardhan put a condition to Muni that on the way he should not be kept on the ground anywhere . If it happens he would not move any further and would stay there.

Pulastha agreed to the condition of Govardhana. He then lift him on his(Pulastha) and palate and then proceeding towards Kashidhama. After going some distance Pulastha reached Vrindavan . At that time Govardhana found Gokula, Vrindavan also exists here.He heard the hustle of Gopies ,singing of different birds,river Jamuna and so on. He then

desired to stay there. Again he also remembered a sky-voice.In Treta-Yuga Sree Rama Chandra ordered the monkeys to build up a bridge over the sea in order to kill Ravana and to recover Sita-devi.Among the monkeys,Hanuman was the greatest. The monkeys began to collect different stones and threw over the sea. Hanuman saw that much time were required to fetch stones from different places. And thinking so he went to Gokula Dhama. Then he tried to lift the Giri-Govardhana so that much stones would available to build the said bridge. But he could not lift the Govardhana.Then Hanuman thought certainly there is some power of the God in this Giri. As such he revolved seven times the Govardhana with due respect. Satisfied with Hanumana and then Govardhana asked why he wanted to lift him and for what purpose? Hanuman expressed the scenario to Govardhana. Govardhana then agreed to render services to the Lord Sree Rama. He reduced his weight so that Hanuman can lift and then went to Chitrakot Parvata. But after going some distance a sky-voice came that the bridge had already been constructed. Thus no need for further stones. Hanuman then went back and placed Govardhan at his own place. Due to this incidence Govardhana became very sad that he could not render services to the Lord then, another sky-voice came to the effect that don’t be sad Govardhana. You would be able to serve Him in the next Yuga(Dwarpa Yuga) and also the devotees of the Lord.

Now remembering the above incidents Govardhana became very heavy. As a result Pulastha could not carry him further .He then kept Govardhana on the ground and went to a nearby forest for performing morning duties. Then he bathed into the river. After wearing his clothes he was about to lift the Govardhana. Govardhana then said that he would not go with the Pulastha because he broke the condition laid by Govardhana as before. Inspite of his trying again and again Pulastha could not lift the Govardhana. Then Pulastha cursed him , to the effect that Govardhana have his size decreased day by day and at one time he would be demolished on the ground.

CURSE OF PULASTHA-HAS IT BECAME SUCCESSFUL?

Now a question may come the people that whether the curse of Pulastha has became successful?

The answer of the above question is that in reality Govardhana is losing its height,length and breadth day by day. As for example before Pulastha’s curse the length of Govardhana eight jugana(one jugana=eight miles) which is equal to 8x8=64miles. Again its breadth was five juganas which is equal to 5x8=40 miles.It’s height was two jugana which equals 2x8=16 miles.

At present (in the year 2023)it is seen that length of Govardhana has reduced to 30000 metres i.e, equal to 30 kilometres(one kilometre equal to 1000 metres)which is equivalent

to more or less than 25 miles.On the otherhand, its breadth has reduced to 15,000 metres which equal to 15 kilometres and is more or less equivalent to 12 miles. Again its height also has been reduced to 200 metres which is equal to 0.2 km.

At present due to different natural calamities ,Govardhana is reducing in terms of its length , breadth and height .Hence,it may be said that the curse of Pulastha is going to be true in future.

GOVARDHAN LILA OF KRISHNA AND ANNAKUT MAHAUTSAVA

Krishna was then seven years old. At one time He found that His father and other aged Gopas were very much busy.Krishna asked His father Nanda why all of you are so much busy ? Nanda told they had to worship Indra ,king of heaven, who provides rain for us. Because without sufficient rain at an appropriate time , otherwise we would not be able to produce agricultural products and to feed our cattle and cows. So for getting his mercy. We worship him at a specific time. For this reason we are busy to collect all the neccessary things which would be required for worshipping. Then Krishna told-O! fathers, there is plenty of water in the ocean . Still, rain falls on the ocean?Father, it is actually not Indra ,but due to mercy of Govardhana that we can cultivate and also nourish our cattles and cows. As such we should worship Giri-Govardhana instead of worshipping Indra.The senior Gopa then understood the reason for which Krishna recommended the puja of Giri-Govardhan .Now all the prasad and things which were prepared for Indra's now assembled on the ground of Govardhan's. Srila Jiva Goswami is his book Gopal Champu. His book is divided into four parts and is easily available in Vrindavan published in hindi and bengali languages. Described the followings-

(i) First-Banana leaves was palced on the ground.

(ii) Second-Different kinds of breads different types of Luchi,Parota,halua,etc were placed.

(iii) Third-above the breads different types of Luchi,Parota,halua,etc were placed.

(iv) Fourth-Then various types of rice were placed on.

(v) Fifth-On all the above things various types of curds, sweets,mithai,monda,etc.are placed.

All the above things were kept in such qualities that sum total of them became equal to the height of the Giri-Govardhana.The arrangement of all the above things in order of priority is called Annakut(Kut=means mountain/giri)and the festival occurs in this respect I called Anna-Kuta Utsava(festival).

At that time Krishna converted into (Himself a gaint (big)) Krishna and went up on the top of the Govardhana mountain.Another Krishna of seven years (original one) stood on the ground and looked at the ground and looked at the gaint Krishna on the top. The gaint one then declared 'I am the mountain(Bhagatam canto 10)

Now when Indra saw that his presentation on the part of the Gopas,i.e,he is not worshipped by them he became very much angry.He sent one of his spy to Vraja for knowing the facts and figures .The spy came back and told Indra that the things for his Puja were used for worshipping The Govardhana.The Gopas and the Gopies also took prasad and them went to their respective houses.

Indra then ordered the Samvat Cloud(cloud which flooded all the worlds during demolition time)to make such a flood over Gokula so that no one would be alive. When the Gopa and Gopies saw a big cloud in the sky they get together and went to Krishna to save them.Krishna then uplifted the Giri-Govardhana with His left hand and keep it on His fingertip of His little finger. He then asked all the Gopas and Gopies to come with all their wealth including cattle and cows. When Krishna uplifted the Govardhana it created a very big round open place .Krishna asked them to take shelter there .In this way Krishna catch hold of the Giri-Govardhana for seven days. Moreover,due to heavy rain water may enter into the hole. As such Krishna ordered the Shesh-Naga to embrace the hole so that no water can enter there. After sometime Indra sent lightning to see the condition of Vraja. Lightning within a minute came and saw nothing .He informed Indra that no one is alive in Vraja. Indra then became very glad. But after sometime Pavandev came and inform Indra .As a result it got so much strength that it is now flying in the sky and all Gopas and Gopies along with their cattles and cows have taken shelter under it. Then Indra thought this mountain must be destroyed.He ordered his Vajra(lightning) to strike the Govardhana .But inspite of many strikes by Vajra , Govardhana remained at the same place as before.Because the supreme personality of Godhead Krishna Himself was protecting the Govardhana from any outside attack however strong it was.

When Vajra failed to destroy the Govardhana ,Indra became helpless.He then went to Brihaspati, his Gurudev (Gurudeva of all the Devas of heaven)and expressed the scenario. Brihaspati told him that seven year old boy , who is holding the Govardhana is not an ordinary boy rather .He is Narayana himself . He is your Prabhu-hearing this Indra began to cry out of fear. He then completely surrendered to Brihaspati to save him. Brihaspati then told that Indra may to go Krishna behind the spiritual cow Suravi becaue Krishna loves her very much.When Krishna will see Suravi His anger will come down.Then you should come out from the back of Suravi and surrender to the lotus feet of the Lord and beg pardon from him for your very much sinful act. Indra did all these and Krishna forgave him. It is said that

Suravi performs bath of Krishna with her milk. She gave so much milk , Gokula over-flooded and that rest milk went to the river Jamuna. For this reason the black water of Jamuna.For this reason the black water Jamuna became white.

(Source-H.H.Bhaktiguru Swami Maharaj)

RASAS CREATED IN GOVARDHANA LILA

Srila Rupa Goswami in his book,the Nector of Devotion mentioned twelve rasas of which Five are principal and the rest are considered as secondary.

a) Primary /Principal Rasas (Ecstay)-

(i) Shanta Rasa (natural love)

(ii) Dassa Rasa (servant attitude)

(iii) Sakha Rasa (Friendship)

(iv) Batsalla Rasa (Parentship)

(v) Madhur Rasa (wife- husband relation)

b) Secondary Rasas (Ecstay)

(i) Hassa Rasa- (laughing ecstay),e.g. when Krishna had to give facilty to ride His friends over Him then others laughed at Him.

(ii) Radra Rasa-(Anger Ecstay) The rasa that is created when anger arises due to some incident .As for example in order to protect frahlad maharaja Nrisinhadev out of very much anger came out of a pillar in the assembly of Hiranykasipu.

(iii) Karun Rasa-(Compassion Ecstay)- As for example when Putana was flying towards mathura with seven days Krishna Yasuhuda and other aged Gopies were crying which created a Karuna Rasa.

(iv) Advat Rasa- (Wonderful Ecstay)-As for for example when the Gopas and Gopies saw Bakasura,Keshi Demons , etc. They became wondered because they did not find such a big crane and horse.

(v) Bhayanak Rasa-(Dreadful Ecstay)-As for example when Krishna was embraced by the Kalia-Naga, then seeing this Nanda-Yasoda and other Gopa-Gopies thought that Krishna may die.As a result dreadful ecstay was created in their minds.

(vi) Bivasa Ravan- When Putana Rakshasi died then seven days Krishna was playing on her chest. That means the Gopas and the Gopies had chastiness Ecstay by seeing the Gigantic figure of her.

(vii) Birrasa-(Chivalry Ecstay)-As for example when Krishna was dancing on the head of Kalia Naga all the Gopas and Gopies including Nanda-Yasuda thought about the strength of Krishna . This created a Chivalry Ecstay in the minds of them.Now let us see of these eleven rasas which rasas were created in Govardhana Lila.

1)First- When the Gopas saw the Samvartak cloud in the sky they became very anxious .This means dreadful ecstay was created in their mind.

2)Second-Once Krishna lifted the Govardhana and kept it on the tip of His little finger. At this friend Madhumangal (who was the son of Sundipuni Muni, and Grandson of Paurnamasi) said that Krishna is Vaisya and I am a Brahmin, transferred some Teja to Krishna to lift the bulky Govardhana mountain. Thus all other Gopa boys and others were laughing ,this created laughing ecstay.

3)Third- While keeping the Govardhan on the top of His little finger Krishna very often was looking towards Radha-Rani and other Gopies. As He was smiling. Here Madhura Rasa was created .

4) Fourth-When Krishna as looking at Radharani and other Gopies sometimes . He was losing the balance of his left hand due to give attendence to the Gopies. As a result Govardhana Govardhana was oscillating a little. Seeing this the aged Gopas thought that Krishna has trouble to bear the weight of the mountain .As such for helping Krishna they raised their sticks below the mountain. Here BatshallaRasa(parenthood ecstay) was created. Again due to the advise of Krishna, Nanda and other elder Gopas decided to stop worshipping to Indra. This was due to their love for Krishna . Here also parenthood ecstay was created. Again the elder gopies also spoke to eachother that became Krishna stole cream etc. from their house and ate those. As a result He could gather such strength of lift such bulky mountain . This is also an example of parenthood ecstay.

5)Fifth- The supreme personality of the Lord kept the mountain on the tip of His little finger for seven days and night. His showed Bir-Rasa part on His part.

6) Sixth-All the Gopas and the Gopies became wondered to all how krishna could keep such a big mountain for seven days and nights. This created a wonderful ecstay.

7)Seven-When Govardhan was seemed to tilt a little,Krishna is friends also raised their sticks at hand on the bottom of the mountain so that Krishna can get some relief. Here Sakha Rasa ,i.e. friendly ecstay was created in the minds of the friends.

8) Eight-When Indra came to know from Brihaspati that the seven year old boy is his master Narayana. Dassa bhava or servant-ship ecstay was created in the mind of India.

MYSTERY OF FIFTH SIX BHOGAS IN THE ANNAKUTA UTSAVA

In the Annakut Utsava atleast Fifty-six Bhogas are given to the Lord. Now anyone may put a question behind its reason. Krishna kept the mountain on His tip of finger for seven days and nights. As such the Gopies delivered Him each day a Bhoga consist of eight types of Anna-Banjan(rice plus other vegetables,etc).Now Krishna also became very much pleased to eat this type of bhoga.Now for seven days there were 7x8= 56 bhogas that in Krishna accepted in total. From that day the devotees offer at least 56 bhogas in one day.

However a devotee may offer more than 56 types of Bhogas . As for example in Youtube channel I found that ISKCON devotees of Dhaka in Bangladesh delivered 2081 numbers of bhogas in the year 2022 to Lord Krishna.

WHO IS GIRI-GOVARDHANA?

There are at least three types of opinion regarding Giri-Govardhana which are as follows-

1)First-It is said that at one time due to some reason Radharani became melted away in the spiritual Gokuldhama. She was tearing water from her eyes . All these tears became stones and from these Govardhana was created. As such Giri-Govardhana may be called as good as Radharani herself.

2)Second-Giri-Govardhana is the best servicer (Hari-Barja-i.e,best servant of the Lord).According to Sanatan Sastra there are four Hari-Dasa and Govardhana. Of these four dasas,Govardhana is at the top most level-i.e,Haridas barja.

3)Third-from Srimad Bhagavatam it is seen that, during the Govardhana Lila,Krishna Himself declared that He is the Govardhana (Canto 10). This is why Govardhana is Krishna Himself. Hence, many devotees do not go upward and roam on the Govardhana while they perform parikrama under the mountain.

GLORY/RESULTS OF LISTENING GIRI-GOVARDHANA LILA

If anyone listen to the glory of Govardhana Lila, He will get the following results.

(1)First-Those who listen to this Lila would be relieved of all types of serious sins.

(2)Second-The listener wil achieve liberation from this mundane world.Generally there are five types of spiritual liberation.

(a)Union of individual soul into Divine Soul-This type of salvation is not desired by the real devotees.

(b) Sasti Mukti-means a devotee will get equal amounts of wealth and other valuables which exists with the supreme Lord. But a real devotee do not want such type of salvation.

(c) Samippa Mukti-means a devotee after death could remain always at service of Lord. Generally devotees of the first may prefer this kind of salvation.Because they want to serve the Lord a servant.

(d)Saruppu Mukti-means getting same form or close resemblence to the Lord.That is after death a devotee would have four arms with club , chakra,conch and padma. Here the devotee would be able to go to Baikuntha. Athough this type of mukti rare to achieve, a pure devotee do not want this type of salvation.However if a devotee listen Govardhan Lila he will get such of salvation.

(e) Salokka Mukti-means a devotee after his death , disappearence from the material world would be able to stay with the Supreme Lord always.We call that the devotee has entered into the daily Lilas of the Lord. Generally a pure devotee do not want any type of liberation.But the Supreme Lord sometimes gives them any one of the last four salvations.He allowed the first form of salvation to the demons generally.

LESSONS FROM GOVARDHANA LILA

We get some lessons from the Govardhana Lila as follows-

(i)First-If even an underaged boy/girl of a family put legal/real arguments for anything the elder members should pay heed to them.This may bring some welfare to the family,which we found in case of seven years old Krishna.

(ii)Second-Those devotees who are at the friendly relation (sakha rasa),parentship(batshalla rasa) and husband-wife(madhura rasa) stage .Like the Gopas and Gopies were dearer to Krishna .As a result Indra when tried to give punishment to them the Lord saved them.So one should try his best level to become a pure devotee of the Lord.

(iii)Third-In this age of kali there emerged many so-called Bhagavan They generally exploit the general and illiterate public.To prevent and to punish them,one should asked them to lift a stone of 10 tons only not to speak of mountain like Govardhana or tell them to show an universal form like Krishna (as did by Him described in the Bhagavat Gita).I am sure they certainly fled at once.

MY BELOVED GURU MAHARAJ H.H. BHAKTI CHARU SWAMI

In one of his lecture told that one day in Delhi a young man came to Prabhupada and said his Gurudev is God Himself.Prabhupada then told the young man that let your so called Guru carry this little finger for one hour only. The young man went and asked his Guru the

Guru told how it is possible. Then that young man came to Prabhu had and said that is so called Gurudeva is a fraud.In this way that young man saved from the exploitation of the false God.